

- 3 -

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Insert the following paragraph between existing paragraphs, at page 7, immediately after line 6:

DI  
Referring to Fig. 2 and Equation (1), the embodiment provides a phase delay for a particular output data stream which is measured in time units which are finer in granularity than the granularity of time units of the transmission rate associated with that data stream. As such, a delayed data stream may begin to be transmitted at a time which is between cell transmission boundaries of an undelayed output data stream. For example, each of data streams  $T_b$ ,  $T_c$  and  $T_d$  each has a delay which is measured in units which are finer, i.e. smaller, than the granularity in time units of the output data stream rate, as each data stream begins at a time which does not necessarily fall on the time unit boundaries of the output data stream rate, as indicated by the demarcations on the x-axis.